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12 July 1966

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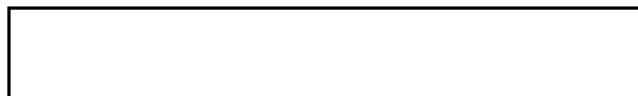
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY
State Dept., JCS reviews completed.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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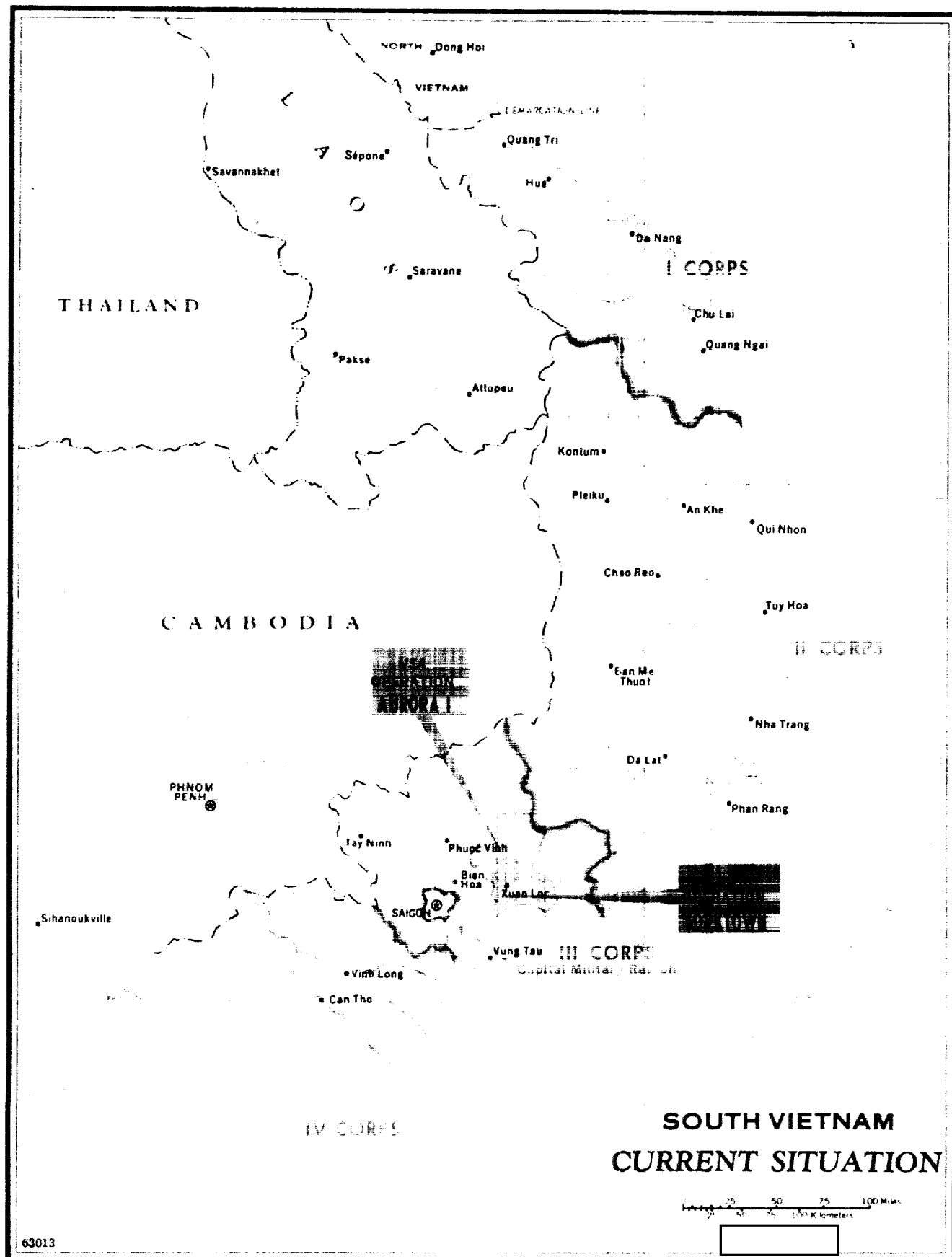
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1. Vietnam: Current situation report. (Page 1)

3. South America: Plans for mid-August conference reflect importance "reformist" leaders attach to meeting of Western Hemisphere presidents. (Page 4)

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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Two battalions of the US 173rd Airborne Brigade have initiated Operation AURORA I in an area about 41 miles northeast of Saigon. This operation is designed to thwart Viet Cong tax collections in the western portion of Long Khanh Province.

US Operation YORKTOWN, which began on 22 June in an area about 30 miles east of Saigon in Long Khanh Province, has been terminated. A total of 23 Viet Cong were killed in small-unit contacts. US casualties totaled 19 killed and 54 wounded.

Communist Political Developments: Peking has once again emphasized that the Vietnamese, not the Chinese, must carry the primary responsibility for conducting the war in Vietnam.

A People's Daily article on 10 July declared that "the people should and can only rely on themselves to make revolution and wage people's war in their own country" and "be prepared to carry on the struggle by themselves should all material aid from the outside be cut off." The article praised the Viet Cong who "have badly mauled" the US through their "reliance mainly on their own strength."

Peking's propaganda has long stressed the theme of "self-reliance" coupled with assertions that China had aided "people's revolutionary struggles" and would continue to do so as part of its "socialist obligations."

(continued)

The appearance of the People's Daily article at this time, however, is further indication that Peking does not view the recent US bombing of petroleum installations near Hanoi and Haiphong as requiring any change in Chinese policy toward the war. The Chinese will, however, undoubtedly continue their present level of support and will probably assist the Vietnamese in developing new and alternative methods for importing and distributing POL supplies.

On 11 July, TASS announced the Soviet Track and Field Team had "refused" to take part in the annual US-USSR meet scheduled for later this month in Los Angeles because of American "aggression" in Vietnam. The competition began in 1958.

Moscow's decision reveals its frustration over the necessity, particularly in the face of Chinese propaganda, to display contempt for US policies in Vietnam while at the same time pursuing common political interests with Washington in other important areas. 1 [redacted] (Map)

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South America: Plans of some Latin American chief executives for a mid-August conference in Bogota reflect the importance these "reformist" leaders attach to the proposed meeting of Western Hemisphere presidents later in 1966.

Colombian President-elect Lleras, who recently traveled to Venezuela, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru, invited the heads of government of these countries to convene in Bogota. His initiative was in response to President Johnson's request for suggestions for the agenda at the larger summit gathering. Lleras' personal interest is evidenced in both public and private statements made during his recent travels and in his willingness to devote considerable time to the project immediately after his inauguration scheduled for 7 August.

Although Chilean President Frei and Venezuelan President Leoni are planning to attend, Ecuadorean President Yerovi has declined, and Peruvian President Belaunde has not yet committed himself. However, Yerovi and Belaunde have endorsed the purposes of the gathering.

Lleras advised the US ambassador in Bogota that the conference was not designed to present a "bloc position" at the larger meeting. However, his recent discussions with the other chief executives--on such items as Latin American economic integration--indicate that some effort may be made to formulate a unified stand on key issues. Discussion of the recent change in government in Argentina and a possible common approach on this political development are also possible topics at the Bogota sessions.

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The Scientific Adviser to the President

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The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

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National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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The Atomic Energy Commission

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